

Human Services Council Meeting
March 16, 2015, 7:30 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chair	<i>Present</i>	Carol Ann Hawn	<i>Present</i>
Col. Marion (Barney) Barnwell	<i>Present</i>	Myra Herbert	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop	<i>Absent</i>	William Kogler	<i>Excused</i>
Steven Bloom	<i>Present</i>	Rev. LaVerne McCain Gill	<i>Absent</i>
Jeff Dannick	<i>Present</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
Kenneth (Mark) Deal	<i>Absent</i>	Kathleen Murphy	<i>Absent</i>
Jack Dobbyn	<i>Excused</i>	Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Poje	<i>Present</i>
Robert Faherty	<i>Present</i>	Adrienne Stokes	<i>Excused</i>
Rev. Dr. Jerrold Foltz	<i>Present</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Present</i>
Robert Gaudian	<i>Absent</i>		
Staff:			
Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive			<i>Present</i>
Gail Ledford, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Michelle Gregory, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)			<i>Present</i>
Ronald McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Brenda Gardiner, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>

Guests and County Staff: Lee Ann Pender, Dana Thompson, Rosalyn Foroobar, Kurt Creager

Welcome and Overview – Jerry Poje opened the meeting at 7:35 and reviewed the agenda.

FY 2016 Advertised Budget Plan Presentation – The main topic of discussion was the budget and preparation for the presentation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Steve Bloom, Budget Committee Chair, presented the draft letter to the full HSC for review and comment. To support this discussion, the Council reflected on testimony made during the public comment period and budget documentation presented by staff as well as County Executive Ed Long. Lengthy discussion ensued related to items the Council should formally support for restoration. The Council debated on the approach to take in articulating its recommendation. They discussed that any human services reductions would have an impact and simultaneously recognized the current budget limitations. The HSC also wanted to provide a clear recommendation for the BOS that prioritized items for restoration.

The Council ultimately recommended two programs for restoration. They included Healthy Families Fairfax and legal services for persons with disabilities. In the letter, the Council also identified a list of cuts they are deeply concerned about, noting that those cuts in conjunction with reductions over the past several years have a compounding impact on the human services system and trends in service demands.

The HSC recognized the difficult decisions for the County Executive and the BOS. The HSC wanted to acknowledge the investments made in the human services system. Those investments support increasing public assistance caseloads, domestic violence and court services, and adult day programming to assist 70 special education graduates.

A final draft of the letter would be sent to the HSC and the presentation to the BOS would be based on the letter. Brenda Gardiner would provide staff support. Jerry Poje and Steven Bloom will present to the BOS on Tuesday, March 31. Kevin Bell will be out of town during the rescheduled HSC budget presentation date.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next HSC full membership meeting is Monday, April 20, 2015, at the Government Center.